

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: [Roger Wadman
ADF&G, Wrangell

DATE : February 20, 1963

FROM: Alex McRea *AM*
Director, Sport Fish
ADF&G, Juneau

SUBJECT: Swan Lake, Sitka, as re-
lated to Urban Renewal
Project.

Mayor John W. O'Connell and Joseph S. Hong, Urban Renewal Project manager, were in the office yesterday concerning our plans for Swan Lake and their wish to channelize the outlet and run it underground (through a culvert, I presume) the 1500 ft. to salt water. This will permit them to eliminate duplicate streets on each side of the creek with the resultant substantial savings to the project. They also want to divert the mouth from the Columbia Lumber Co. sawmill area northerly about 350 ft. to take it outside the breakwater for the new small boat harbor (at the request of the Corps of Engineers to meet a requirement for eliminating any fresh water entering the small boat harbor). The approximate course of the underground flow is cross hatched in blue on the enclosed plot.

I told them we would attempt to fit our plans for the Lake into their requirements, but I could not define our plans since you were on vacation. Also, I promised them an answer by the week of February 24th.

Jim Parker (you have a copy of his memo) believes the small anadromous potential of the outlet can be foregone in view of the importance to the city of developing the urban area. It appears that using the lake for a resident trout fishing would fit into the city planning with the least conflict. This is not at odds with our past plans for Swan Lake, as formulated by Bob Baade, but I did not wish to commit without your concurrence. If this approach appears feasible, we would ask that a barrier, probably at the lake outlet, be constructed as part of the city's urban renewal project. We would forego the anadromous potential and concentrate on a resident trout fishery. In view of the minor anadromous value and the location of the lake within the populated area, this appears feasible with what information I have. The door is still open, however, for another approach if it is advisable.

Please contact me immediately if this resume is not clear, or if you have objections to following this course of action. Otherwise, contact Jim Parker and Mayor O'Connell directly and proceed with the planning.

AHM:df
cc: Jim Parker
Info: Swanson, Kirkness